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## 7 GOP Restraint Helps Country

ARE REPUBLICANS justified in attacking the Kennedy administration for the disaster in Cuba? So far Congressional Republicans have done no more than slap back at Secretary of Interior Udall's malicious attempt to shift the blame to ex-President Eisenhower.

We believe, however, that the international situation is too serious to permit politics as usual. The Republicans have the right—perhaps even the duty—to protest comments like those of Udall and the attempt to make CIA Director Allen Dulles the scapegoat for the failure because he is a holdover Republican appointee and brother of the deceased secretary of state under Eisenhower.

But the fundamental error of the Kennedy administration in Cuba was in failing to back up the refugee landing with American air support and naval artillery fire. That is a conclusion in retrospect; but it is now clear that the American position would be better today if the refugees had succeeded with American armed support. Their defeat without battle support but with help in training and transportation seriously weakened this country's prestige. It is impossible to remain just a little bit involved in these things. Once the United States is involved as much as in the Cuban invasion attempt, it is imperative to succeed.

But the Republicans in Congress probably will be ill-advised to say these things publicly. There are too many implications for the future in a critical review of the past. Republicans should not hamper in any way the consultations now going on with other American states in regard to the problem of Cuba.

Thus Republican restraint is certainly correct. One only wonders if the Democrats would be equally restrained if the situation were reversed.